



## SUMMER 2017 VOLUME 27 ISSUE 2

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# AMBS window

## Seminary graduates called to engage the “whole of life”



**M**ary H. Schertz, Ph.D., encouraged graduates of Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary (AMBS), Elkhart, Indiana, to hold close “the weariness and wonder of the world and the sorrow and joy of human being” in her commencement address on May 20 at College Mennonite Church in Goshen, Indiana.

“And there, in whatever exciting thing you do next ... you will meet the face and grace of God,” she told them. “You will find sturdy hope; you will find the joy of being a disciple; you will find ways to witness to the dawn breaking upon us from on high.”

Schertz, AMBS professor of New Testament, connected Mary’s Magnificat (Luke 1:46-55) and Zechariah’s Song (Luke 1:68-79) with a phrase from a prayer in the Anabaptist Prayer Book — “the deepest blue of world and soul” — which she described as “that elusive, ever-changing blue beauty after the stars fade, or before they emerge,” opposite the rising or setting sun.

“This deepest blue of world and soul is not something you can keep separate from you,” she said. “It fills the universe, and because you are a part of the universe, it fills you too.”

Schertz pointed out that both Mary and Zechariah emerge from their experiences of “deepest blue” with life-changing revelations: “Whereas Mary’s song about her child imagines a world free from oppression and hunger, Zechariah’s song about his child

imagines a world free to worship and serve the Lord, without fear.”

Schertz recalled her last conversation with **Alan Kreider**, beloved AMBS professor emeritus of church history and mission, who passed away from multiple myeloma on May 8. He had encouraged her to tell this year’s graduates “to love the Bible.”

“Keep hanging out with Mary and Zechariah and all the others,” Schertz told the graduates. “Keep probing these mysteries, praying these Psalms, telling these stories. Keep loving these words, **(continued on p. 2)**

**Top:** The AMBS graduating class of 2017. **Left:** Mary H. Schertz, Ph.D., AMBS professor of New Testament, gives the address at the 2017 commencement ceremony.

**Credit:** Jason Bryant

### STAY IN TOUCH

- [facebook.com/followAMBS](https://facebook.com/followAMBS)
- [twitter.com/followambs](https://twitter.com/followambs)
- [ambs.edu/news-events](https://ambs.edu/news-events)

because they are themselves the deepest blue of world and soul ... containing the whole of life, and offering for the whole of life, epiphany and revelation, continuing and ever new."

**Allan Rudy-Froese**, associate professor of Christian proclamation, presented the charge to the graduates, building on Schertz's color imagery and urging them to use all of their senses in engaging and experiencing God's goodness and color-saturated creation without fear.

"The God who speaks in blue and

brown and gray and green created us with deep rivers that run through our bodies — red rivers, red blood," he said. "Bring your bodies, your love, your passion, your anger ... bring your red to those places that need to stop — or start — and do it in the name of the one who loved, to death."

The graduates responded with a litany that included the refrain, "We will not fear," and came forward to place pieces of fabric in varied, deep colors among the candles at the front of the worship space.

The commencement service included

commendations from the AMBS board for retiring faculty members Schertz and **Daniel S. Schipani**, Dr.Psy., Ph.D., professor of pastoral care and counseling. Schertz has served AMBS since 1988 as professor of New Testament and as director of the Institute of Mennonite Studies since 1999. Schipani has taught at AMBS since 1985, beginning with Christian education and personality and later shifting to pastoral care and counseling. The two professors anticipate retiring on June 30. •

—Annette Brill Bergstresser

## 2017 GRADUATES

### Twenty-one graduates honored

The 2017 AMBS commencement service took place on May 20 at College Mennonite Church in Goshen, Indiana. Each graduate received one of the following degrees and certificates.

*MDiv* Master of Divinity

*MACF* Master of Arts in Christian Formation

*MAPS* Master of Arts: Peace Studies

*MATS* Master of Arts: Theological Studies

*Certificate in Theological Studies*

\* Identifies candidates who have six or fewer credits left to complete toward their degree.

\***Andrew Everett Austin, Jr.** (Blue Springs, Missouri). *MDiv: Theological Studies: Biblical Studies*. Andrew is pursuing a pastoral ministry assignment. He and his spouse, Sophia Austin, attend Hively Avenue Mennonite Church in Elkhart.

**Corben Boshart** (Parnell, Iowa). *MATS:*

*Biblical Studies*. Corben is pursuing a pastoral ministry assignment. He is a member of West Union Mennonite Church in Parnell and attends North Main Street Mennonite Church in Nappanee, Indiana. He is engaged to Mara Weaver.

**Shana Peachey Boshart** (Wellman, Iowa). *Certificate*. Shana plans to continue as Conference Minister for Christian Formation for Central Plains



From left: Andrew Austin, Corben Boshart, Shana Peachey Boshart, Ben Bouwman, Alison Brookins, Asia Frye. Not pictured: Ben Breckbill, Sara Carlson.



## 2017 GRADUATES

Mennonite Conference and curator of [www.AnabaptistFaithFormation.org](http://www.AnabaptistFaithFormation.org). A member of Wellman Mennonite Church, she is married to David W. Boshart; they have three children, including Corben Boshart, who graduated from AMBS the same day.

**\*Ben Bouwman** (Goshen, Indiana). *MDiv: Pastoral Ministry*. Ben has accepted a position as associate pastor of Walnut Hill Mennonite Church in Goshen. He and his spouse, Yasi, and their son have been attending Prairie Street Mennonite Church in Elkhart.

**Ben Woodward Breckbill** (Belfast, Northern Ireland). *MDiv: Theological Studies: Biblical Studies*. Ben has accepted a position as associate pastor at Shalom Mennonite Church in Newton, Kansas. He is a member of First Mennonite Church of Lincoln, Nebraska, and he and his spouse, Laurel Woodward Breckbill, currently attend East Belfast Mission, a congregation of The Methodist Church in Ireland.

**Alison Brookins** (Madison, Wisconsin). *MDiv*. Alison has accepted a call to

serve as pastor of Chicago Community Mennonite Church starting in August. This summer, she will work with Ted & Company TheaterWorks in Harrisonburg, Virginia, to take her original show, *Discovery: A Comic Lament*, on tour. A member of Madison Mennonite Church, she attends Belmont Mennonite Church in Elkhart.

**Sara Louise Carlson** (Portage, Michigan). *Certificate*. Sara will continue to serve in a pastoral role at Silver Creek United Methodist Church in Dowagiac, Michigan. She is widowed and has two daughters.

**\*Asia Frye** (Hillsboro, Kansas). *MDiv*. Asia is pursuing a pastoral ministry assignment. A member of First Mennonite Church in Hillsboro, she is married to Timothy Frye, and they have two children.

**Bob Gerber** (Leesburg, Indiana). *MACF: Teaching Ministry*. Bob, who is retired, is married to Fran Gerber, and they have four children (one is deceased). He is a member of North Main Street Mennonite Church in Nappanee,

Indiana, and also attends Berkey Avenue Mennonite Fellowship in Goshen, Indiana.

**Lawrence L. Giden** (South Bend, Indiana). *MACF*. Lawrence sees his first assignment as preaching the gospel of Jesus Christ. He desires to work as a conference/workshop coordinator or keynote speaker in areas of African-American history, church-community relations, multiracial congregations, mental health and nonviolence education. He is a member of Bethlehem House of Bread Ministries in Niles, Michigan.

**\*Michelle L. Hackler-Artley** (South Bend, Indiana). *MDiv*. Michelle has accepted a position at Hope Ministries in South Bend. A member of Keller Park Church in South Bend, she is married to Rick Artley, and they have three daughters.

**Belihu Delegne Hailu** (Addis Ababa, Ethiopia). *Certificate*. Belihu will continue teaching at the Meserete Kristos College in Debre Zeit, Shewa, Ethiopia. He is a member of Meserete Kristos Church and attends Asko



**From left:** Bob Gerber, Lawrence Giden, Belihu Hailu, Lee Hiebert, J. Tyler Klassen. Not pictured: Michelle Hackler-Artley.

## 2017 GRADUATES

Meserete Kristos Church, both in Addis Ababa. He is married to Sister Tsige Demie, and they have two children.

**\*Lee Allan Hiebert** (Winnipeg, Manitoba). *MDiv.* Lee has accepted a position as lead pastor at Steinbach (Manitoba) Mennonite Church. A member of Sargent Avenue Mennonite Church in Winnipeg, he attends Sunnyside Mennonite Church in Elkhart. He is married to Rachel Hiebert.

**Jarold Tyler Klassen** (Elkhart, Indiana). *MACF.* Tyler plans to continue managing the Chain Reaction Bicycle Project in Goshen, Indiana, and to explore work as a spiritual director. A member of Hively Avenue Mennonite Church in Elkhart, he is married to Mary E. Klassen, and they have one daughter.

**Tobias Arwa Magatti** (Shirati-Rorya, Mara, Tanzania, and Goshen, Indiana). *MAPS: International Development Administration.* Tobias plans to work with organizations that help disadvantaged individuals and work with

peace and justice issues. He will continue to volunteer for Tanzania Education Aid, Inc., to advocate for women's education in local areas of Shirati while looking for a job. A member of Shirati Mennonite Church in Shirati-Rorya, Tobias attends Assembly Mennonite Church in Goshen. He is married to Lenora Hirschler Magatti, and they have four sons.

**\*Peter John Martin** (Cassopolis, Michigan). *MDiv: Theological Studies: Peace Studies.* Peter plans to continue living at Camp Friedenswald in Cassopolis — where his spouse, Jenna Liechty Martin, is the executive director — finding meaningful ways to contribute to community life and caring for their young son. He attends Eighth Street Mennonite Church in Goshen.

**\*Caley Ortman** (Freeman, South Dakota). *MDiv.* Caley is pursuing a pastoral ministry assignment to work as a youth leader or associate pastor. A member of Salem-Zion Mennonite Church in Freeman, he attends St. James African Methodist Episcopal Church in Elkhart.

**Kris Rappatta Polega** (Goshen, Indiana). *MDiv.* Kris is pursuing a pastoral ministry assignment and continuing to work in the non-profit sector. A member of Goshen City Church of the Brethren, she has two children.

**\*Kristine Regehr** (Hesston, Kansas, and Grand Marais, Minnesota). *MDiv: Pastoral Ministry.* Kristine will complete her seminary coursework and a supervised ministry experience at College Mennonite Church in Goshen, Indiana, this summer and fall. She plans to pursue a pastoral ministry assignment. She is a member of Assembly Mennonite Church in Goshen.

**Darrin W. Snyder Belousek** (Lima, Ohio). *Certificate.* Darrin plans to continue to teach at Ohio Northern University in Ada. A member of Salem Mennonite Church in Elida, Ohio, he is married to Paula Snyder Belousek; they have three children. •



From left: Tobias Magatti, Peter Martin, Caley Ortman, Kris Polega, Kristine Regehr, Darrin Snyder Belousek.  
Graduate photos credit: Steve Echols



# The 2017 graduating class

**T**hirteen of the graduates are affiliated with Mennonite Church USA; one with Mennonite Church Canada; two with the Church of the Brethren; one with the Meserete Kristos Church in Ethiopia; one with the Missionary Church; and one with The United Methodist Church. Two graduates identify as Baptist.

The class included a mother and son: **Shana Peachey Boshart** of Wellman, Iowa, and **Corben Boshart** of Parnell, Iowa. One graduate, **Bob Gerber** of Leesburg, Indiana, completed a degree he began 40 years ago (*see p. 6*). Two graduates, **Belihu Delelegne Hailu** of Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, and **Darrin W. Snyder Belousek** of Lima, Ohio, came to seminary already having earned advanced degrees at other institutions. **Lawrence L. Giden** of South Bend,

Indiana, earned a Certificate in Theological Studies from AMBS in 2014 and went on to graduate with a Master of Arts in Christian Formation.

The class's gift to the seminary — an annual tradition — is a pergola that will be located near the Student Activities Center. •

## GRADUATES BY DEGREE

11	Master of Divinity
3	Master of Arts in Christian Formation
2	Master of Arts: Peace Studies
1	Master of Arts: Theological Studies
4	Certificate in Theological Studies (represents one year of study)

## GRADUATES BY THE NUMBERS

7	women
14	men
5	countries represented (Canada, Ethiopia, South Korea, Tanzania, United States)
13	serving as pastors or seeking a pastoral assignment
2	teaching at the college level
2	serving non-profit organizations
1	pursuing work as a workshop coordinator and speaker
1	pursuing mission work
1	serving in a camp setting
1	seeking work as a spiritual director
1	retired

# Graduates receive awards

**E**ach year, AMBS faculty members present awards to selected graduates at the Dean's Breakfast, which is held the day before commencement. This year's recipients are:

- **Andrew Everett Austin, Jr.:** Willard M. Swartley Award for Excellence in Biblical Interpretation
- **Ben Bouwman:** Award for Excellence in Pastoral Ministry
- **Ben Woodward Breckbill:** Marlin E. Miller Award for Excellence in Theological Studies; Perry B. Yoder Award for Excellence in Hebrew Exegesis
- **Alison Brookins:** Marlin E. Miller Award for Excellence in Theological Studies; Award for Excellence in Preaching
- **Asia Frye:** Award for Excellence in Christian Formation
- **Lee Allan Hiebert:** Abundance Canada Spirit of Generosity Award
- **Peter John Martin:** Award for Excellence in Peace Studies
- **Caley Ortman:** Award for Excellence in Christian Formation; Heart of the Community Award
- **Kris Rappatta Polega:** Award for Excellence in Missional Leadership

Graduates also received a certificate toward a free webinar from AMBS's Church Leadership Center; a one-year subscription to *Vision: A Journal for Church and Theology* from the Institute of Mennonite Studies; access to the ATLASerials for Alum database from the AMBS library; and a reduced price registration for the library's online seminar, *Research for Ministry*. The Admissions Team presented each graduate with a "golden ticket" — good for one waived application fee — to share with someone considering studying at AMBS. •



**Above:** J. Tyler Klassen (in back) is pictured with his father, Dr. William (Bill) Klassen of Waterloo, Ontario, who was New Testament professor in 1958 when Mennonite Biblical Seminary (one of the seminaries that formed AMBS) began on the Elkhart campus. Bill Klassen served from 1958 to 1967; he is the only member of that original faculty and administration who is still living.  
**Credit:** Jason Bryant

**Left:** Sister Ruby Fair-Miller, current MACF student, anoints Rachel and Lee Hiebert at the commissioning ceremony.  
**Credit:** Annette Brill Bergstresser

# Seminary coursework inspires collaboration with former mission partners

When **Bob Gerber**, 80, of Leesburg, Indiana, enrolled as a Master of Divinity student at Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary (then Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminaries) in Elkhart in the spring of 1978, he couldn't have imagined that he'd be getting his degree *this* spring, nearly 40 years later.

Or that his final practicum in applying his studies would come in creating a course on Anabaptist theology with German- and Portuguese-speaking church leaders in Brazil, where he'd served as a long-term missionary.

However, Gerber — who graduated from AMBS on May 20 with a Master of Arts in Christian Formation — has “a capacity to follow a call that's not clearly laid out in front of him,” notes his advisor, **Rachel Miller Jacobs**, assistant professor of congregational formation at AMBS. “He shows an element of courage and trust that ventures out into something that is emerging.”

Gerber's journey to seminary began in the mid-60s, when he was a pastor of Bourbon Mennonite Chapel between Warsaw and Plymouth, Indiana. The congregation commissioned him and his wife, **Fran**, for service through Mennonite Board of Missions, a predecessor to Mennonite Mission Network. In 1968, the Gerbers and their one-year-old twins moved to the city of Araguacema, Brazil, where Fran served in education and hospitality and Bob focused on leadership



**Bob Gerber (at right) and Jose Fernandes de Brito, his “Brazilian spiritual father,” gather in dialogue and prayer on one of Gerber's return visits to Araguacema, Brazil, in 2012. Photo provided**

training with the Brazilian Mennonite Church. They served in Brazil until 1974 and then again from 1978 to 1985. While on furlough, Bob finally started seminary studies to complement his pastoral experience.

After returning to the United States, Gerber was pastor of a church plant in Warsaw, Indiana, and the Gerbers served with China Educational Exchange (now Mennonite Partners in China) (1996–2000) before retiring to Leesburg.

It took some courage for Gerber to restart his studies in his late 70s, with 20 percent of his seminary credits to go. But he felt there was still a call to complete.

Changes in teaching style at AMBS over the years ended up making a profound impact on Gerber's final practicum. Rather than using lectures, professors are now more likely to use a “subject-centered” method.

“It's a beautiful approach,” Gerber marvels. “The subject is there ready to be discovered, so people gather around it and try to discover its secret.”

## AMBS Window SUMMER 2017 Volume 27 Issue 2

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A seminary of  
Mennonite Church USA and  
Mennonite Church Canada

## ALUMNI NEWS

Several alumni presented papers and workshops at the third “Rooted and Grounded Conference on Land and Christian Discipleship,” held at AMBS April 20–22: **Malinda Berry** (MAPS 2000), **Katerina Friesen** (MDiv 2016), **Wendy Janzen** (MDiv 2002), **Douglas Kaufman** (MDiv 1994), **S. Roy Kaufman** (MDiv 1969), **Joshua Kinder** (MATS 2012), **Richard Klinedinst** (MATS 2009) and **Devon Miller** (MAPS 2009). **Alison Brookins** (MDiv 2017) and **Allan Rudy-Froese** (MDiv 1992) presented a drama, *Discovery: A Comic Lament*, written by Alison. **Katerina Friesen** preached for one of the worship services. **Alyssa Mezsick** (MDiv 2016) and **David Miller** (MDiv 1993) led

immersion experiences. Conference coordinators were **Janeen Bertsche Johnson** (MDiv 1989) and **Christine Guth** (MDiv 2007).

**J. Denny Weaver** (MDiv 1970) published *God without Violence: Following a Nonviolent God in a Violent World* (Cascade Books, 2016), a popular version of his analysis of issues of violence in theology, designed for use in congregations and introductory theology classes.

**Gary Yamasaki** (MDiv 1988) recently published *Insights from Filmmaking for Analyzing Biblical Narrative*, one of the two inaugural volumes of the Reading the Bible in the 21st Century series by Fortress Press. •



Miller Jacobs recalls that Gerber sought to integrate his relationships from Brazil with this new subject-centered approach when choosing a topic for his practicum.

Seeking to propose a curriculum for Anabaptist theological education in Portuguese, Gerber contacted **Fridbert August** (MDiv 2011), president of the Association of Mennonite Churches in Brazil and professor at the Faculdade Fidelis, a theological school in Curitiba. August was “delighted with the idea,” recalls Gerber, “and he brought together an advisory group of Brazilian pastors and church leaders to shape the content.”

In the spring of 2016, Gerber visited Curitiba to consult with the advisory group. The group suggested using *The Good and Beautiful God: Falling in Love with the God Jesus Knows* by James Bryan Smith as the basis for the course. So Gerber wrote the content in English, **Amalia Penner Correa** translated it and August refined it. In the fall, Gerber visited Mennonite congregations across Brazil to introduce the course.

This spring, Gerber’s curriculum was launched as a Faculdade Fidelis pilot leadership training extension course, *Raízes*. One group leader, **Pastor Ricardo do Nascimento**, affirms the course’s subject-centered methodology.

“The themes are contemporary and bring a very practical and easy approach to the kind of problems the students face on a daily basis,” he reflects. “Every participant has been engaged in reading and meditating on God’s Word.”

As Gerber’s work bears fruit in ways he couldn’t have imagined, Miller Jacobs celebrates his faithfulness: “Bob has been astute in paying attention to what kept pulling at him, and then persistent in following through with that.” ●

—Jason Shenk for AMBS

## Schertz and Schipani retire after 61 years of combined service

Long-time professors **Mary H. Schertz**, Ph.D., professor of New Testament, and **Daniel S. Schipani**, Dr.Psy., Ph.D., professor of pastoral care and counseling, retired June 30.

Schertz came to AMBS in 1988 as assistant professor of New Testament and MA director. In 1999, she became director of the Institute of Mennonite Studies (IMS), and in 2000 was advanced to full professor of New Testament.

At AMBS’s May 20 commencement service, Academic Dean Rebecca Slough recognized Schertz’s passion for teaching, reading a statement from the AMBS Board commending Schertz for her teaching and scholarship in the areas of Greek language study, biblical foundations for peace and justice, the quest stories in Luke’s Gospel, biblical perspectives on the atonement, and biblical spirituality.

“Mary’s teaching is centered in her deep love for the Bible, her love for the church, her love for her students and most important, her love for God,” Slough said.

Schertz is co-author of *Seeing the Text: Exegesis for Students of Greek and Hebrew* (Abingdon, 2001) and is working on a commentary on the Gospel of Luke.

According to the board statement, Schertz’s leadership of IMS has yielded the publication of 60 books; 17 years of *Vision: A Journal for Church and Theology* (published with Canadian Mennonite University); 17 conferences; and a collaborative faculty research project.

Schipani began teaching at AMBS as professor of Christian education and personality in 1985. Over time, his teaching portfolio shifted, and he became professor of pastoral care and counseling.



**Daniel Schipani, Dr.Psy., Ph.D., and Mary Schertz, Ph.D. Credit: Jason Bryant**

The AMBS Board commended Schipani for his teaching and scholarship in education for peace and justice; his work in developing theological groundings for the ministry of spiritual caregiving in Christian, interfaith and multi-faith contexts; his work with the wounds of trauma; and his research on the consequences of toxic spirituality.

Schipani has written and edited numerous books on teaching, pastoral counseling, interfaith spiritual care and intercultural Bible reading.

“Daniel is the quintessential networker, connecting people with common interests and provocative ideas and always looking for ways to collaborate,” Slough said. “At the center of Daniel’s work is a profound belief in the transforming power of relationships — the Trinitarian relationships that express God’s character, God’s relationships in communion with humankind, and human beings living in relationship with God and with one another,” she added. ●

—AMBS staff

## YOUR GIFTS AT WORK

Our first annual **Hearts on Fire Day**, June 2, abounded in good cheer, school spirit and generosity. The day was an opportunity to give to AMBS’s Annual Fund and to show support for the ways in which AMBS helps carry out God’s mission in the world. Many of us wore bright orange t-shirts and gave brief testimonials about what “our hearts are on fire for ...” Through our social media and email campaigns, we increased donor participation by 22

percent and donations by 34 percent over Giving Tuesday last winter, for a total of \$48,959 from more than 125 donors.

The disciples who encountered Jesus on the road to Emmaus marveled at how their hearts were ignited when he explained the Scriptures to them. Your generosity makes possible the work we do to teach leaders to explain the Scriptures with insight and passion. Thank you and thanks be! ●

—Sara Wenger Shenk, president



# AMBS SNAPSHOTS

## Scholarship recipients for 2017–18

### INTERNATIONAL STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS

These full-tuition awards encourage and support outstanding international students with gifts for ministry as they prepare to serve the church in their home countries.



#### **Esther Muhagachi**

Esther joins the AMBS community from Tanzania, where she worships with the Kanisa la Mennonite Tanzania. She will pursue a Master of Arts: Christian Formation.



#### **Patrick Obonde**

Patrick joins the AMBS community from Kenya, where he worships with the Kenya Mennonite Church. He will pursue a Master of Arts: Peace Studies.



#### **Luis Tapia**

Luis joins the AMBS community from Ecuador, where he worships with the Iglesia Cristiana Anabautista Menonita de Quito. He will pursue a Master of Divinity with a major in Theological Studies.

### NEXT GENERATION SCHOLARSHIP

This full-tuition award encourages and supports outstanding Mennonite students with gifts in church leadership.



#### **Mara Weaver**

Mara lives in Elkhart, Indiana, and is a member of Prairie Street Mennonite Church. She will pursue a Master of Divinity with a major in Theological Studies.

### CHURCH LEADERSHIP AWARD

This full-tuition award encourages and supports outstanding Mennonite students with gifts for ministry as they prepare to serve the church.



#### **Sophia Austin**

Sophia lives in Elkhart, Indiana, and attends Hively Avenue Mennonite Church. She will pursue a Master of Divinity with a major in Theological Studies.

### ADDITIONAL AWARDS

- Lederach Preaching Scholarship: **Samuel Bwosh**
- Multicultural Scholarship: **Febri Kristiani, Cathy Stoner**
- Special Scholarship: **Peter Anderson, Rianna Isaak**
- Steiner Bivocational Scholarship: **Shabnam Bagh, Cathy Stoner, Benjamin Sutter**

## LOOKING FORWARD

### Advanced Spiritual Guidance Seminar

This yearlong supervised program in spiritual guidance is for people who offer spiritual direction and wish to enhance their skills. It will be offered in a hybrid format. Online work begins Aug. 14, 2017. On-campus dates are Sept. 11–12, 2017, and April 23–25, 2018.

- [ambs.edu/lifelong-learning/advanced-spiritual-guidance](http://ambs.edu/lifelong-learning/advanced-spiritual-guidance)

### Journey: A Missional Leadership Development Program

Journey is for congregational leaders, church planters, pastors called to ministry without a college or seminary education, and lay leaders preparing for a variety of ministries in the church or community. Our distance-friendly program requires one visit to campus each year. Register by Aug. 25.

- [ambs.edu/journey](http://ambs.edu/journey)

### Exploring Anabaptist History and Theology

This online short course, offered Sept. 13 – Oct. 24 and taught by Jamie Pitts, Ph.D., covers the birth and development of 16th-century Anabaptist movements and looks at various interpretations of the meaning of “Anabaptism” today. Cost: \$200 before Aug. 23; \$250 after. CEUs available.

- [ambs.edu/shortcourses](http://ambs.edu/shortcourses)

### Understanding Anabaptist Approaches to Scripture: What’s Different and Why?

In the 16th century, Anabaptists approached Scripture in ways that were both similar to and different from their fellow Catholics and other Protestants. This course will seek to understand those similarities and differences in light of today. Loren Johns, Ph.D., will teach this six-week, online short course Oct. 25 – Dec. 12.

- [ambs.edu/shortcourses](http://ambs.edu/shortcourses)

### Seminary Preview Events

Want to visit campus and explore options for seminary study? Meet students and professors in person, attend classes, join us in worship and get first-hand information about financial aid and scholarships.

*Preview Evening:*

Nov. 2, 2017, 5 p.m. – 9 p.m.

*Preview Day:*

March 9, 2018, 8 a.m. – 3 p.m.

- [ambs.edu/visit](http://ambs.edu/visit)

### Explore seminary study without applying

You can take up to two courses through AMBS without being admitted to a degree or certificate program. As a nonadmitted student, your first class is 50 percent off. This applies to campus, online and hybrid courses. Check out our fall course list!

- [ambs.edu/academics/one-course-options](http://ambs.edu/academics/one-course-options)